



Landslide Preparedness and Safety

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Labor Day has past and the fall rainy season is approaching fast. The Sierra National Forest Burned Area Emergency Response (BAER) Team has nearly completed the soil assessments regarding the burn severity for the Creek Fire. Please be cautious of the potential for severe mountain thunderstorms that can develop quickly with little warning. The recent fire in conjunction with rainfall has the potential to produce landslides over the affected area.

Recognize Landslide Warning Signs

- Doors or windows stick or jam for the first time.
- Changes occur in your landscape such as patterns of storm-water drainage on slopes, land movement, small slides, flows, or progressively leaning trees.
- New cracks appear in plaster, tile, brick, or foundations.
- Fences, retaining walls, utility poles, or trees tilt or move.
- Water breaks through the ground surface in new locations.

During a Landslide

- During a severe storm, stay alert and awake. Many deaths occur from landslides while people are sleeping.
- Listen to local news stations on a battery power radio for warning signs of heavy rainfall.
- Listen for unusual sounds that might indicate moving debris, such as trees cracking or boulders knocking together.
- Avoid river valleys and low-lying areas.
- Curl into a tight ball and protect your head if escape is not possible.

Anatomy of a mudslide

How heavy rain can cause mud- and rockslides:

